

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend page 15, lines 13 by deleting the phrase—Me is an alkali metal—  
and substituting a period therefor, as indicated on the attached marked-up page of the  
specification.

The preferred process or method of the present invention may be described as follows:

Acid anhydride (or lactone) + polyfunctional amine -> N- polyfunctional acid common name amide

Then,

N- polyfunctional acid common name amide+polyfunctional amine ->

imido di N- polyfunctional acid common name amide

Or,

Acid anhydride (or lactone) + polyfunctional amine -> N-acid common name polyfunctional amide

Then,

N-acid common name polyfunctional amide + acid anhydride + alkali metal hydroxide +

R-NH<sub>2</sub> -> amino acid Me salt N-common name polyfunctional amide

Where R is a hydrogen or organic radical, ~~and Me is an alkali metal~~

Either method of synthesis of this invention has the ability to produce a chelating compound with at least six coordinating nonbonded electrons; and at least five of the nonbonded electron pairs may participate in coordination without steric hindrance or bond angle limitations.

For instance or example: